

SECRET

SECRET 192236Z JUL 82 STAFF

CITE FBIS/PANAMA CITY 63192

TO: FBIS.

REF: FBIS 14154

RYBAT

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1. I SIGNED OFF ON EMBASSY DRAFT CABLE 15 JULY RESPONDING TO STATE QUERIES REGARDING FBIS FSN'S. DRAFT BRIEFLY REITERATED WHAT HAS BEEN AGREED EMBASSY/FBIS POSITION REGARDING STATE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM FROM THE BEGINNING -- THAT GIVEN SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES HERE BECAUSE OF TREATY PROVISIONS AND PHYSICAL SEPARATION OF FBIS FROM EMBASSY, APPLICATION OF STATE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM TO FBIS FSN'S WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO SPECIFIC QUERIES RE SUPPORT TO FBIS FSN'S AND POSSIBLE IMPACT ON MORALE AND EMPLOYEE/MANAGEMENT RELATIONS, CABLE INDICATED SUPPORT IS MINIMAL AND, BECAUSE OF PHYSICAL SEPARATION, NO NEGATIVE IMPACT IS ANTICIPATED AT LEAST UNTIL COMPLETION OF NEW CHANCERY, ESTIMATED FY90 AT EARLIEST AS YOU KNOW, THERE IS POSSIBILITY FBIS OPERATION MAY BE HOUSED IN NEW CHANCERY IF/WHEN IT IS BUILT.

3. COM COMMENTS HAD NOT YET BEEN INCLUDED IN DRAFT I INITIALED. IF ANY ARE INCLUDED, I DOUBT THEY WILL DEFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM FOREGOING. IN BRIEF CHAT WITH EMBASSY ADMIN OFFICER AFTER INITIALLING DRAFT CABLE, I GOT DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT THIS IS NOT A BURNING ISSUE AND THAT THE PERSONNEL OFFICE WILL BE AS HAPPY AS WE ARE TO SEE IT ALL GO AWAY. THEY ARE HAVING ENOUGH PROBLEMS EMPLEMENTING STATE SYSTEM WITH THEIR OWN FSN'S AND ARE PERFECTLY HAPPY, GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, TO LET US ADMINISTER OURS. RVW 16JUL88.
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